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OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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ORNL
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MONTHLY STATUS AND PROGRESS REPORT

JANUARY 1950

PART I

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U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS

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MONTHLY STATUS AND PROGRESS REPORT Name

Title Date

OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS

January 1950

PART I

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1-31-95

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Single rereview of CCRP-declassified documents was authorized by DOE Office of Declassification memo of August 22, 1994.

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COMMUNITY OPERATIONS

REAL ESTATE OPERATIONS

Housing Policy

The ORO housing policy was revised to permit the assignment of cemesto-type units to tenants who were formerly eligible only for demountable units. However, such tenants are not eligible for cemesto units which have a rental rate higher than \$ 58.50 per month; the highest shelter rate established for a single family unit of concrete or frame construction.

The accumulation of additional statistical data needed to make a housing analysis is being made. Based upon this analysis, another memorandum will be drafted setting forth the long range housing requirements and the methods used in reaching the conclusions. The analysis being made will also be helpful in redrafting the general housing policy for all dwelling units in Oak Ridge.

Housing

Occupancy Data - Residential Properties - January

	As of <u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>Jan. 31</u>
Total - Family Living Units	<u>8596</u>	<u>8859</u>
<u>Houses</u>	<u>7091</u>	<u>7258</u>
Occupied	6802	6797
Unoccupied	289	461
<u>Apartments</u>	<u>1505</u>	<u>1601</u>
Occupied	1321	1295
Unoccupied	184	306
<u>Dormitory Spaces</u>	<u>2373</u>	<u>2224</u>
Occupied	1893	1844
Unoccupied	480	380
Applications pending - Family living units*	341	326
Applications pending - Dormitory spaces	0	0
Leases written during January**		89
Leases cancelled during January**		134

* Excluding changes of quarters

** Excluding changes of quarters, changes of title, and changes of employment.

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COMMUNITY OPERATIONS (Contd.)

REAL ESTATE OPERATIONS (Contd.)

Dormitories. Operation of the Oak Ridge dormitories was awarded to the C. L. Leach Hotel Company of Norfolk, Virginia, for a three year period. The Company offered the highest bid (\$261,576 about 2 1/2 times the rental under the previous contract) for the operating period, seven other bids were received.

Concessions

Three long term leases were executed, and three are being revised in final form for execution. Leases have been approved for seven other establishments and are now in the process of preparation. A request is being prepared to secure approval to execute leases with two present concessionaires who erected the buildings they occupy.

Department Store. Space presently occupied by Taylor's Department Store was awarded to Loveman's, Inc. of Chattanooga, Tennessee. An injunction suit was filed in State Court by Taylor's to restrain award of the long-term lease to Loveman's. A temporary restraining order was issued and a hearing was scheduled for early February.

GENERAL

A study was made of the type of information that will be made available by the Bureau of the Census and the supplementary data needed by ORO. The census of population and housing will be conducted in April. The Bureau of the Census will use its regular questionnaire form and will not make any special survey. It was proposed that ORO would establish records and keep the information obtained from the census up to date.

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce decided to relinquish the operation of the City Directory. Four proposals to continue the Directory and to keep the records up to date have been submitted to Roane-Anderson Company by private individuals.

The Oak Ridge Hospital, Inc. is contemplating entering into a contract which would make the Blue Cross Plan applicable to the Hospital as a member of the Blue Cross.

CONFIDENTIAL

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

PRODUCTION AND RESEARCH CONTRACTORS

Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Division

An election committee, recounting the ballots the United Chemical Workers, CIO, Local 288, cast in its annual election of officers held January 20 and 21, in which J. A. George, the incumbent president, had 494 votes to J. H. Johnson's 489, decided to recommend to the membership that the election be voided since six additional votes had appeared in the recount. The Local has set February 10 and 11 as the dates of the new election.

NEPA

As a result of the Hearings of last summer on the petitions of the Electricians, Machinists, and United Chemical Workers, CIO, the National Labor Relations Board has ordered that representation elections be held February 10. Five ballots will be required in the election with (1) the Electricians having a choice of representation by International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, United Chemical Workers, or no union; (2) Sheet Metal Workers will have a choice of International Association of Machinists, United Chemical Workers, or no union; (3) Pipefitters will choose between International Association of Machinists, United Chemical Workers, or no union; (4) Machinists will choose between International Association of Machinists, United Chemical Workers, or no union, and (5) all remaining eligible employees will have a "yes" or "no" choice of the United Chemical Workers.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS

Asbestos Workers

Members of the Knoxville Local of the Asbestos Workers Union struck for a wage increase on January 9 and returned to work January 25 after winning 12½ cents an hour, bringing their hourly rate to \$2.375. The work stoppage did not adversely affect the construction program at Oak Ridge, as very little insulation work was under contract.

J. A. Jones Construction Company

The contractor on January 26 assigned the laying of vitrified clay drainage pipe to laborers, to which the plumbers objected, asserting jurisdiction over that work. The plumbers walked off the job for a day and a half, returning on Monday, January 30, during which time the protested work had been completed.

Jones' electrical subcontractor, Watson-Flagg, conferred with the National Electrical Contractors Association chapter in Knoxville to seek reconsideration of the NECA agreement with International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with respect to the clause providing a 10% bonus pay for work in

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (Contd.)

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS (Contd.)

restricted areas. It was decided to hold a meeting in Chattanooga on February 6 with representatives of IBEW and the NECA present. Watson-Flagg and Edenfield Electric Company, electrical subcontractor of Maxon Construction Company, will be present.

Maxon Construction Company

The plumbers are making a strong claim to some work performed at present by Carbide maintenance forces on process pipe, the installation of which is a part of the construction contract. The work performed by non-AFL employees consists of thoroughly cleaning pipe in acid, necessary prior to installation. This work will not easily be relinquished by the building trades union, as the outcome may serve as a pattern for similar work to be done on a great deal of piping for the K-29 and K-31 jobs.

Monsanto Chemical Company

A National Labor Relations Board Hearing began January 31 on the petition of the United Chemical Workers, CIO, to represent 16 Health Surveyors at Mound Laboratory. The contractor opposes inclusion of this group in the maintenance unit on the grounds that Health Surveyors have no community of interest with hourly employees but are technical workers and can be identified with 73 other salaried personnel.

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS CONTRACTORS

Roane-Anderson Company

Operating Engineers, Local 900 - The petition of Local 900 of International Union of Operating Engineers (F. H. Holbrook, Business Agent) filed with the National Labor Relations Board during December, seeking a separate unit of Roane-Anderson employees, was withdrawn during the month. The petition as originally filed sought representation of water and sewage plant operators, pump operators, heavy equipment operators, and utility millwrights. An amended petition included employees in steam plants, pump station, Division 5, roads and streets, filter plant, Garden Apartment steam plant, and utilities division, and involved classifications such as automotive painters in auto body shops. During December Holbrook was directed by the Southeastern Representative of Operating Engineers to withdraw the petition, in view of the policy of the Building Trades Department not to use NLRB facilities. Holbrook advised the International President of the union that Local 900 did not wish to withdraw the petition. On January 12 representatives of Roane-Anderson Company and Knoxville Building Trades Council met with Mr. Holbrook and Burton J. Zien, NLRB Field Examiner. At the conclusion of this meeting Mr. Zien indicated that the unit which Local 900 sought was so obviously inappropriate that he would recommend dismissal of the petition unless the Local withdrew it. Later in the month Holbrook withdrew the petition.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (Contd.)

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS CONTRACTORS

Cappiello and McDade - Employees of Cappiello and McDade, Roane-Anderson subcontractors for firing of boilers in apartment buildings and commercial buildings, went on strike at 1:00 P.M., January 30, when the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 900, was refused recognition by the employers. The employees had been organized by the business agent of Local 900. The subcontractors, after an unsuccessful attempt to hire new men, agreed to recognize the union and to negotiate for improved wages and working conditions. The men returned to work on January 31.

Knoxville Building Trades Council - Preliminary meetings have been held between representatives of Roane-Anderson and Knoxville Building Trades Council to negotiate a new contract covering hourly maintenance employees. The present contract expires February 21. The contractor has traditionally followed Tennessee Valley Authority maintenance schedules, which would result in an approximate 5.8-cent raise in wages on the basis of the recent TVA settlement. However, some difficulty may develop because the TVA agreement provides no wage increase for carpenters. The union negotiating committee can be expected to press vigorously for wage increases to include the carpenters.

American Industrial Transit

The contractor and Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, AFL, have opened negotiations for a new agreement, the present contract expiring March 1. The first proposal of the union included a 22-cent increase for bus drivers (from \$1.38 to \$1.60) and various changes in working rules. In subsequent meetings the union wage demand has been decreased to 15 cents, and the contractor has offered 5 cents, or a 6-cent raise with less sick leave benefit. A year ago the union was out on strike for 23 days and returned to work when the contractor agreed to submit the wage dispute to arbitration. The Atomic Energy Labor Relations Panel did not assume jurisdiction in last year's dispute, since production at the plants was not affected.

ADMINISTRATIVE

PERSONNEL

Recruitment and Placement

Applications received by the Personnel Office increased 50% during the month as compared to December receipts. A total of 427 "walk-in" applicants were received, while "write-in" applicants numbered 277. One hundred seventy-six applicants were referred for AEC interviews during the month and 251 were referred to various contractor organizations or to the Tennessee

ADMINISTRATIVE (Contd.)

PERSONNEL (Contd.)

Department of Employment Security (comparative figures for December were 112 and 144, respectively), A total of 1548 pieces of correspondence to sources outside the Commission were mailed during the month, with 71% of this volume represented by reference inquiries concerning applicants. This compares to 2235 and 1946, respectively, in December and November, with comparable ratios of 81 and 70%. Recruitment action to fill 47 vacant positions is now in process (34 of these vacancies are in ORO and 13 in ORE's.). Tentative selections have been made for 23 positions (14 are in ORO and 9 in ORE's) and are awaiting security clearances or, in cases of transfer, release. The remaining 24 positions are in various stages of the recruitment and selection process. Comparison of the number of applications received over the ten-week period from November 28, 1948, through February 5, 1949, with the ten-week period from November 23, 1949, through February 1, 1950, indicates that the average number of applications received per week has increased 71.8 per cent. While an accurate comparison cannot be made of the quality of applications during the same two periods, there has been an appreciable increase in the number of applications from persons with scientific, technical, and administrative backgrounds and from college graduates.

Personnel Changes

Fred H. Belcher was appointed Manager of the Dayton Area, effective February 1. Mr. Belcher succeeds K. A. Dunbar, who was appointed Director of the Office of Production and Engineering in November 1949.

Employee Organizations

The NFFE Local No. 1016 requested (1) that distribution of organizational material through official mail channels be authorized, and (2) that employees be excused during regular working hours to attend meetings. A subsequent discussion with an NFFE committee resulted in approval of (1) above, and an agreement to reconsider (2) on the basis of the practical problems involved (i.e., meeting space, dispersed locations of employees, security forces, etc.). An explanation of the AEC policy on longevity increases and the inability of AEC employees, generally, to meet the conditions of Executive Order 10080, permitting conversion to competitive status, was also part of this meeting.

LEGAL

On January 28, Roane-Anderson Company filed a suit against the State of Tennessee to recover assessment paid under protest on gross receipt taxes, bus seat taxes, and automobile license and registration fees. Extension of time was obtained for filing arguments in the suits brought in December by the State to recover automobile registration and license fees for 1944 and 1945 from Roane-Anderson Company and other Oak Ridge operating contractors.

ADMINISTRATIVE (Contd.)

LEGAL (Contd.)

The case U. S. versus Slagle, suit against an AIT bus driver for damages against government property, was compromised by the U. S. Attorney's Office.

The case Ivey versus U. S., a suit for damage for logs cut and used by Stone and Webster, came to trial during the month and the plaintiff obtained judgment for \$800; the U.S. Attorney's Office has not yet decided whether to appeal.

PROPERTY AND SUPPLY

Property Disposal

An ORO report in which disposal problems were highlighted was submitted to Washington. The suggestion was made that the disposal functions of ORO be transferred to the operating contractors.

Motor Busses

Representatives of the ORO and the bus operating contractor inspected the excess busses at Hanford. It was determined that the Hanford busses were not suitable for Oak Ridge bus operations. Transit type busses with front entrance and rear exit doors have been requisitioned: twenty busses are to be bought during FY 1950 and ten in FY 1951. With the acquisition of the new twenty-seven passenger busses, it is anticipated that the fleet required for townsite operation can be reduced by approximately seven busses.

Decatur Installation

The data required in the disposal of the Decatur Plant as a surplus facility were forwarded to Washington for transmittal to GSA which will dispose of the plant.